

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8996

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONGEN MUNICH

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3.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RO, UR, BU

SUBJ: CEAUSESCU TRAVEL TO SOVIET UNION AND BULGARIA

REF : BUCHAREST 4003

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY GDR AMBASSADOR VOSS INFORMED
CHARGE AT LIBERIAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION JULY 26 THAT
CEAUSESCU WILL DEPART FOR 10-DAY CRIMEAN HOLIDAY ON
EITHER JULY 24 OR AUGUST 1.

2. WHEN CHARGE WRYLY OBSERVED THAT HE HAD JUST HAD LONG
CONVERSATION WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR WHO DISCLAIMED ANY
KNOWLEDGE OF WHEN CEAUSESCU WOULD MAKE VISIT, VOSS GRINNED
AND SHOT BACK "DON'T YOU KNOW HE'S THE BIGGEST LIAR IN
TOWN."

3. VOSS ALSO OFFERED CONFIRMATION OF RUMOR THAT CEAUSESCU
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HAS AGREED TO BRIEF WORKING HOLIDAY IN VARNA, PROBABLY

SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN FROM SOVIET UNION. FYI: PRIME MINISTER MANESCU LEFT THIS MORNING FOR PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED VISIT TO SOFIA.

4. COMMENT: POSSIBILITY OF CEAUSESCU "VACATION" IN USSR WAS FIRST MENTIONED BY ERA SOCIALISTA EDITOR STEFAN

VOICU (BUCHAREST 4003). YUGOSLAV CHARGE HAS TOLD US THAT INVITATION WAS EXTENDED DURING MAY 28 KATUSHEV VISIT HERE AND PERSONALLY RECONFIRMED BY BREZHNEV AT ECPC BERLIN CONCLAVE. IF IT DOES TAKE PLACE, THIS WILL BE CEAUSESCU'S FIRST RETURN TO CRIMEA SINCE HE ATTENDED MEETING OF PARTY HEADS THERE IN JULY 1973. IN ADDITION TO CEAUSESCU, DEPPREIMMIN PATAN IS SAID TO BE ON A 10 DAY "VACATION" IN SOVIET UNION. OTHER RECENT TRAVELLERS HAVE INCLUDED DEPPREMIN GHEORGE RADULESCU, WHO LED ROMANIAN DELEGATION TO SPECIAL JOINT ECONOMIC SESSION IN MOSCOW, JULY 13-16, AND DEPFONMIN GLIGA WHO IS THERE NOW (BUCHAREST 4378). A JOURNALIST DELEGATION LED BY SCINTEIA EDITOR ALEXANDRU IOCJSCU AMH INCLUDING CEAUSESCU'S BROTHER FLOREA ALSO RECENTLY VISITED THE SOVIET UNION. THIS SPATE OF VISITORS APPEARS INTENJRD TO FURTHER TRANQUILIZE RECENT TENSIONS CAUSED BY THE HISTORICAL POLEMICS OF PAST SEVERAL MONTHS AND ONCE AGAIN TO PUT MORE CORRECT FACE ON SOVIET-ROMANIAN RELATIONS. VIETS

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